

MINUTES
SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING

February 16, 2023
4:00 to 6:00 pm

Commission Room
380 Fenwick Road, Bldg. 96
Fort Monroe, Virginia

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Members Present

Wayne France
Richard Harding via WebEx
Don Porter
Dan Dise via WebEx

Members Present

Tommy Kellum
Charles Johnson
J. C. Hudgins
Jackie Shannon

VMRC/VIMS/VDH Staff

Andrew Button
Adam Kenyon
Jamie Hogge
Vernon Rowe
Andy Shin
Melissa Southworth, VIMS

Wayne France, Chairman, opened the meeting at 4:03 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Member Tommy Kellum made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Member Cowart seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Approval of January 24, 2023, Meeting Minutes:

Member Jackie Shannon made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Member Porter seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0-1. Member Lake Cowart abstained.

Discussion of the 2023 Oyster Restoration and Replenishment Plan (ORP):

Andrew Button, Deputy Chief, Shellfish Management Division, presented the 2023 Oyster Restoration and Replenishment Plan (ORP) and funding with a PowerPoint presentation. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

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Funding Source: Amount:

Non-Federal

General Funds Replenishment (GF)	\$2,500,000
General Funds Restoration (GF)	\$1,500,000
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	\$125,000
Non-General Funds (NGF) Oyster Resource User Fees	\$200,000

SEED TRANSFER:

James River (Nansemond Ridge)

Up to 15,000 bushel of seed oysters @ ~ \$6.00/bu.

James River (Seed Area)

Up to 10,000 bushels of seed oysters @ ~ 12.00/bu.

\$200,000 (NGF) (GF Replenishment)

Member Lake Cowart made a motion to approve the seed t as presented. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

SHELL PLANTING:

Bay and Tributaries:

600 – 800 acres of oyster shell restoration @ 1,000 bushels/acre @ \$2.50 - \$4.50/bushel.
\$2,500,000 (GF Replenishment) \$0-\$1,500,000
(GF, Restoration) \$0-\$70,000 (NGF)

Eastern Shore:

6.5-13 acres @ 5-10,000 bushels of shells/acre @ ~ \$4.50/bushel.
\$125,000 (NGF-TNC) \$100,000 (GF Restoration)

Mr. Kellum supported to expand the shell planting to Black Berry Hangs.

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ALTERNATIVE CULTCH (STONE) PROJECTS:

Restoration:

Up to 100 acres @ 250-1000 tons/acre @ ~\$50.00 to \$90.00/ton
\$0-\$1,500,000 (multiple sources)

Replenishment:

0-50 acres @ 250 tons/acre @ ~\$50.00 to \$60.00/ton
\$0-\$627,000 (GF Replenishment)

Member Hudgins made a motion to approve the shell and substrate projects as presented, to include the possibility of expanding shell plant on Black Berry Hangs. Member Dise seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0-1. Member Kellum abstained

Discussion of possible season extensions:

Andrew Button, Deputy Chief, Shellfish Management Division, discussed a possibility for a 10-working day season extension for the following areas:

Tangier Sound
Black Berry Hangs
Great Wicomico
Rappahannock Area 1
Deep Rock
York River
All Hand Tong Areas are set to close March 31.

Member Porter requested Pocomoke Sound 9 for a 10-working day extension.

Member Lake Kellum made a motion to approve the season extension as presented. Member Shannon seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Other Business:

Kellum made a motion to have a Strategy Meeting to discuss the Rappahannock River in detail at a future SMAC Meeting. Member Porter seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Member Shannon requested to have an update on Wreck Shoals at the next SMAC Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

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